

# The Caledonian



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SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1787.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE, May 8.  
Whitehall, May 8.

THE King has been pleased to approve of George Wolff, Esq; to be Consul for the King of Denmark in the port of London, and in the other ports of England, and the islands thereto belonging, excepting those districts where other Consuls have already been appointed by his Danish Majesty.

Hamburg, April 20.

This morning, Cornelius William Poppe, Esq; was unanimously elected, in the Assembly of the Senate of this city, to fill up the vacant seat of the deceased Senator Christian Hunker.

LLOYD's LIST.—May 8.

CAPTAIN Ladlam, of the Active, arrived in the river from Grenada, spoke the Neptune, Scott, from London to Boston, in lat. 42° long. 35°, out four weeks, all well.

Captain Halloway, of the Hopewell, arrived in the river, spoke the Mary Ann, of Liverpool, for Virginia, in lat. 37° 45' long. 47° 30' spoke the Flora, of Boston, for Newfound land, in lat. 47° 55' long. 23° all well.

The Martha, Sinclair, from Gothenburg to Firth of Forth, is lost near Fladstrand in Norway, only the Captain saved; the cargo and ships materials likely to be saved.

Captain Gahagan, of the Ann, arrived in the river from Jamaica, on the 7th ult. spoke the Peace and Plenty, William, from Liverpool to Boston, in lat. 39° 40' long. 45° 30' out 45 days.

The Betsey, Walker, from Dantick to London, drove on shore the 20th ult. in Dantick Bay, and lies in three and half feet water; several other vessels are on shore.

The Speighton, Jackson, from Liverpool to Barbadoes, is arrived at Madeira, with loss of her main-yard.

The Peggy, Beckingham, from Falmouth to Hamburg, is lost off the coast of Holland.

The Bremen Merchant, Wiese, from Hull to Bremen, is totally lost near Emden; crew saved.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

MONDAY, May 7.

READ several bills on private business.

All the Judges, but Lord Mansfield and Mr Justice Buller, attended, to decide a very important case depending since the year 1785. It was a writ of error from the Court of Exchequer in Scotland, wherein Archibald Taylor, owner of a small open boat, plaintiff, and John Blain, a Customhouse officer, defendant, in error, who prosecuted as well on behalf of his Majesty as himself.

The question was carried through the several processes of trial, merely to determine, whether coals conveyed by the river Clyde to Rothsay, in the Isle of Bute, are liable to duty.

The case stated to the House, was, That on the 8th of June 1785, Blain, in his official capacity, seized the boat of Taylor, in value 1 l. 2 s. for carrying one chaldron and eight bushels of coals from Broomelaw, in the river Clyde, within the port of Glasgow, and landing them at the town of Rothsay, in the Isle of Bute, which is also situated on the river Clyde, because he had not paid duty for the same.

The Attorney-General, the Lord Advocate and Solicitor-General of Scotland, were counsel for the Crown; Mr Wight and Mr Campbell on the part of the boat owner; and their arguments turned on this point—Was the river, in the situation described as above, to be considered as a sea? and did the vessels trading thereon come within the meaning of vessels trading from port to port?

Counsel having finished their arguments *pro et contra*, at half past five o'clock,

Lord Chief Baron Eyre recapitulated the several acts of Parliament, by which it was clearly held, that vessels trading from one port to another, where the sea had an ebbing and flowing, that although that river intersected a country, and had locks upon it, yet the passage being from port to port, such vessels, whether great or small, became liable to the port duties, and therefore he informed the House, the Judges were unanimously of opinion,

"That the coals were shipped in the boat, and worshipped to be laid on land, contrary to the form of the statute in that case made and provided, and that the said boat and coals became forfeited."

The Lord Chancellor then put the question, that the decree of the Court of Scotland be affirmed, and it was affirmed accordingly.

The Dukes of Portland and Manchester, Lords Stormont, Sidney, Bathurst, Stanhope, King, and Amherst, and Lord Shannon of Ireland, one of the new English Peers, were the only Lords present.

The decision of this question will most materially affect Scotland. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, May 7.

Agreed to the report of the resolutions on the supply of Friday last, and

Came to several resolutions for granting a supply to His Majesty.

TAX ON SPIRIT LICENSES.

In a Committee of ways and means, Mr Gilbert in the chair.

Mr Pitt called the attention of the House to a measure of which he had formerly given notice—an additional duty to be imposed on the licensees granted to retail dealers in spirituous liquors. He was conscious, he said, that objections were generally made to the collection of taxes by way of license, as falling equally on persons of very different descriptions, and unequal in their ability to pay the tax.

But this objection he was convinced would by no means apply to the present case. In the first place, the tax in question was in fact as much a measure of regulation as of finance, as it tended, if not to diminish, at least to prevent an increase of low retail

shops, which were allowed on all hands to be nuisances extremely obnoxious to society. In the second place, it was not intended to levy the tax equally on all, but to raise it in the manner of the house tax, by a rated duty on the rent of the house.

This mode of assessment, it was true, had been objected to in other cases; but, in the present instance, it was certainly the most eligible that could be devised, as the value of the house, and the sale of the liquors, depended much on the situation and other circumstances by which the rents were estimated, and which were technically denominated the *Good Will*. It was also his intention to levy the tax by instalments, by which the revenue would be benefited, and the payment at the same time rendered more easy to the retail dealer; the sum to be raised being collected in equal portions of the annual payment at the end of every six weeks. The total amount of the tax, as far as could be ascertained, he said, would be about 80,000 £ annually, which

far make up for the reduction of the duties on spirits;

and at the same time prevent the dealer from making an exorbitant profit from the lower prices at which he was impeded to sell. The mode in which it was to be raised, he stated as follows: A duty of two pounds per annum to be levied on all retail shops, where the tent of the house did not exceed ten pounds, the payment in which case, at the end of every six weeks, would be near about five shillings Sterling.—The duty afterwards to ascend at the rate of eight shillings to every five pounds rent. Thus a house of 15l. rent and under, was to pay 2l. 8s.—of 20l. 2l. 16s.—of 25l. 3l. 4s.—of 30l. 3l. 12s.—of 35l. 4l.—of 40l. 4l. 8s.—of 45l. 4l. 16s., and a house of 50l. rent 5l. 4s.—Beyond which rent it was not his intention that the tax should ascend, as it was found on the strictest enquiry, that houses of a greater rent did not dispose of more, and frequently sold even a smaller quantity of spirituous liquors, than those of an inferior description. He then concluded, by moving each of these rates of duty, in a distinct resolution.

Sir Benjamin Hammett said, that he considered all the taxes collected by way of license, as personal and invidious; and, as such, he should oppose the present.

The resolutions were then severally put and carried.

DRAWBACK ON WINES.

In a Committee of the whole House, Mr Rose in the chair,

Mr Pitt adverted to the situation of those persons who having large quantities of wines on hand, imported previous to the present reduction of the duties, would be considerable sufferers, unless relieved by the intervention of the Legislature.—It was certainly proper, he observed, that an allowance should be made them, proportioned to the Reduction of the Duties; but, it would be attended with many inconveniences, if this indulgence was extended further than to those who were bona fide Importers of Wines. He therefore concluded by moving a resolution, "that all persons in possession of a quantity of wine of 252 gallons and upwards, on which the duties were actually paid before the 10th of May 1787, should receive an allowance on the same, equivalent to the Reduction in those Duties which had been made by several acts of the present session of Parliament."

Mr Medley was proceeding to state the inconveniences to which private persons were subjected in transporting their wines from one place to another;—but Mr Pitt interrupted the Hon. Gentleman, by reminding him, that the circumstance which he had mentioned, was a matter of distinct consideration from the present business.

The resolution was then put, and carried.

NEWCASTLE COAL TRADE.

Lord Mulgrave, after dwelling for some time on the importance of the coal-trade from Newcastle, as a nursery for seamen, &c. presented a petition from certain owners of ships in that trade, praying for leave to bring in a bill for its better regulation, and for the more effectual prevention of frauds therein.

Mr Jolliffe, Mr Hussey, and Mr Brandling, were against receiving the petition, as no proof or explanation had been given respecting the necessity of the regulation, or the frauds alledged to have existed.

Sir Matthew White Ridley opposed the measure, as unnecessary, and tending only to perpetuate those violent animosities, which had prevailed for some time between those concerned in that trade.

Lord Mulgrave said, that he was empowered from the most respectable men in the trade to introduce the bill, and insisted in general terms on its necessity. Leave was granted.

WEST INDIA FREE PORTS.

Mr Grenville moved for leave to bring in a bill for the purpose of continuing under certain regulations the four Free-ports established in the island of Jamaica, the act by which they existed as such, being near expiring; and also for the purpose of establishing others in Grenada, New-Providence, and other of the Bahama Islands.

Mr Burke, in a few words, expressed his approbation of the measure. Leave was granted.

INDIA BUDGET.

The order of the day was then read, and the House resolved into a Committee of the whole House, Lord Frederick Campbell in the Chair.

Mr Dundas rose to open what, on a former day he styled his *East-India Budget*. From the very elaborate detail he went into, which necessarily led him to refer to a variety of voluminous and intricate

accounts, we shall only attempt to give a general idea of the principal features of his speech, which took up more than two hours in the delivery.

He began with stating, that he did not feel himself under the necessity of taking up so much of the time of the Committee, as some Gentlemen might conceive from the length of the various accounts on the table.—Hitherto, he said, almost every subject relative to the situation of India had been involved with so many considerations of a personal nature, that it had led to discussions of much animosity, and of great length.—This, he trusted, would not be the case on this occasion.—He had to submit to the Committee, which he would do with as much brevity as the nature of the subject would admit of, a plain unexaggerated state of the affairs of the East India Company in Bengal.—He would rather avoid stating them in so flattering a point of view as he was even warranted in doing—because he did not wish to take any unnecessary responsibility upon himself—the House, however, had not a doubt of convincing the House, that the affairs of the East India Company, so far from being in a state that led to despondency, afforded prospects highly gratifying and flattering to the country in general.

Much stress, he observed, had been laid upon the late dispatches from India, particularly on the letter received from Lord Cornwallis, as if it had warranted those observations which some gentlemen had made on the unpromising state of the Company's finances.

He was happy that both sides had agreed to refer to this document as the foundation of their opinions.

He trusted, however, that every man would on that day refrain from making any personal allusions.

Let the advocates for and against Mr Hastings reserve any arguments they might draw from them till the day on which the question of impeachment was to be agitated.

Publicity, he observed, was a principle essentially necessary to the good government of India. It was a country which produced an annual revenue of five millions.

It kept up a very great civil and military establishment, which consequently afforded a very considerable and important patronage.

In whatever hands it might be lodged, it was not fitting, he said, that this House should be ignorant of the administration, or of the state of the finances of that country, or of the manner in which its patronage was exercised.

The resolutions which he should have the honour to bring forward to the consideration of the Committee, would be a lasting monument on the Journals of the House, and afford an example to future Administrations that the House of Commons expected from them a faithful account of their stewardship.

The whole amount of the debts of the East India Company in Bengal, Mr Dundas stated to amount

to 1,000,000 £, of which 1,000,000 £ was to be paid off this year—

There were some debts, which, from their nature, were not included in that estimate;—he meant those which were from time to time deposited in the Company's treasury—they bore no interest; and though they were undoubtedly debts, and would be considered as such on a final settlement of their affairs, yet they were of a fluctuating kind, and would continue so long as the Company had existence.

He then proceeded to state the amount of the revenues of Bengal, which, from the average of the three last years accounts, he estimated at four millions sterling.

The revenue of Madras, with its dependencies, was from a similar average, 25 lacs, 18,835 pagodas, and, by the last account transmitted from Sir Archibald Campbell, was stated to be one lac more.

The annual revenue of the presidency of Bombay, and the subordinate settlements under the heads of land revenue, customs, &c. according to the latest advices, amounted to 11 lacs 41,713 rupees.

Upon the whole, he stated, that it appeared from the documents before the House, and from the latest advices from India, that there was a clear surplus revenue of one hundred and eighty lacs of rupees, and he had not a doubt, from the reduction which had by this time taken place in the various establishments in India, that if it should be his lot to discuss this subject another year, he should be able to prove to the House, that the East India Company had a clear revenue of two crores of rupees.

From this surplus he admitted, that a considerable sum would be required for the annual investments from Bombay and Madras.

The former, he believed, from its great military establishment, would require 40 lacs; but, he thought that Madras would soon be able to provide in a great measure for its own investments, as well as for the expences of its government.

Having thus stated the amount of the whole debts and revenue of India, he next called the attention of the Committee to the idea suggested by Lord Cornwallis, that in order to see his Government on its legs, it would be necessary to relieve him of

the expense of the war that he could paint to himself—and still, he said, we should be able to carry on our trade as well as our enemies.

Such were the flattering and agreeable prospects which we had in view from the present situation of our affairs in India.

He might have drawn the picture in more gaudy colours, but the subject did not require embellishment; he hoped it would contribute to restore harmony to the feelings of some gentlemen, who, by their gestures, seemed not to give much credit to the outline of the whole.

He concluded with moving a string of resolutions in support of his arguments, which he read severally.

Mr Francis said, after the Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr Dundas) in the notice he had given of bringing forward this business, had stated, that it would be a proud and a triumphal day for him, and those who were concerned in the Government of India, when they should give an account of the increased finances in India; he certainly expected a different statement to what he had now seen and heard.

Instead of pride, the Right Hon. Gentleman had nothing but promises; and instead of triumph, the Committee and the country had only consolations, and these consolations consisted of many topics, which he chiefly enumerated.

First, it was a consolation that Bengal was not in a state of depopulation, as the other provinces were.

This, he said, afforded no particular idea of satisfaction; for as Bengal was the cause of the rest of the provinces being depopulated, it was no matter of surprise or congratulation to ourselves, that it should not be in that impoverished state to which it had the power of reducing its neighbouring provinces.

It was next adduced, as a subject of consolation, that we were to lend thirteen hundred thousand pounds to China, and even half of this was to be in specie.

This, he thought, was not a subject on which we could console ourselves.

Next we had to send from Bengal 30 lacs of rupees to Bombay.

To shew that this was no subject for consolation, he stated the present and former situation of the two provinces.

After thus recapitulating the various topics which had been urged by the Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr Dundas) as subjects of consolation to the country, and especially to those concerned in India affairs, he then adverted to the statement given of the revenue in Bengal.

It was said, that we had a surplus revenue of 188 lacs of rupees: the fact was, that it was only 145 lacs.

The expence of collecting this revenue was stated at only 39 lacs; but, from the as-

count he held in his hand, there was an expence of 71 lacs. Here was a diminution of the revenue of 32 lacs; for as this was the amount of the collection above what was stated, it certainly reduced the amount of what the net revenue was estimated to be.

He condemned likewise the Right Hon. Gentleman for having formed this estimate from the years 1782-3, 1783-4, and 1784-5, instead of 1785-6, and 1786-7. He might say, in answer to this, that he had not the accounts: If he had not, the fault was in the Government, who did not enforce and oblige the accounts to be sent: but however, if they had not the particular accounts of those years, they knew what the gross sum of the receipts was. They had therefore no necessity, but their own choice, to refer to accounts of three years before, because they happened to compose a period when the annual receipts of the revenue were much larger than in the succeeding years.

Mr. Grenville censured the Hon. Gentleman for not appearing to be better informed with regard to the accounts of finance in a government in which he had been so long concerned and interested. With respect to the amount paid on the collection of the revenue, the Hon. Gentleman would find, if he referred to the paper he had in his hand, that it was stated to be the sum he had said, namely, 71 lacs of rupees. As to his complaint of not having the accounts of the year 1785-6, he might be assured, that the most speedy and vigorous means had been used to obtain them. But as to those of 1786-7, there the Hon. Gentleman really went beyond all possibility; for, in the month of May 1787, he expected an account to be sent from India of revenues collected, and ending only in April of the same year.

Mr. Francis said, that, in referring to the statement, he found the collection of the land revenue was, as he had said, 39 lacs. The other statements, which made up the sum 71 lacs, had no reference to this expense. They were composed of expenses of collecting customs and different disbursements, relative to civil establishments.

Mr. Dundas rose then, and rather warmly observed, that when an Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Francis) thought proper to state that he had chosen to refer to any years in preference to others, in order to compare the Committee with respect to the actual situation of the country, forgive him if he said such an assertion was not true. He referred to those years, because they had not been able to obtain the statements of other years that succeeded. As to the miserable evil of distinguishing between the different articles of the expenses, he expressed his great astonishment to see it referred to on the present occasion. The amount of the 71 lacs of rupees was the expence incurred in the collecting of the revenue, and other contingencies which referred to that subject. Besides, they were stated exactly at the expences which the Hon. Gentleman had thought proper to describe as being the amount of expence on collection; whereas he must have seen they contained an account of all the different articles as before adverted to; so that the expence was precisely what had been originally expressed, however they might pretend to differ on the nature of the articles.

Mr. Francis said a few words in reply.

Sir James Johnstone spoke on the subject. He observed, there were quacks in politics as well as in medicine; and he thought the Right Honorable Gentleman (Mr. Dundas) appeared to be one of these quacks. He had stated that the Company owed a debt of 19 millions, and the cure which he had promised, or rather prescribed for it, he was afraid would be as ineffectual as quack medicines in general for the disorders to which they are applied.

Mr. Burke, in a long speech, said, that however the Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Dundas) had now produced to the House a statement of there being a surplus of one million and a half, yet he should rather believe the account given by Lord Cornwallis, who resided on the spot. From the part of his letter, which had been produced to the Committee, he had there said there was only a million; and he thought this was more likely to be the accurate account; however the Right Hon. Gentleman might have entered into an argument with his Lordship as he had done on the subject. But in order to have given fair play to what his Lordship had advanced on the subject, his whole letter should have been produced. He then observed, that if such a surplus of revenue existed, he should have thought the paper currency of the country would have been diminished. On the contrary, it was increased; indeed, the government of Bengal had forced it to be taken, and refused to take it again in payment. Was this an indication of encroaching prosperity? What should we think of the Directors here, if they issued their bonds, and would not take them again in payment? Would not be considered as a certain symptom of their decline in wealth, commerce, and revenue? It was likewise mentioned as a subject of exultation, that Bengal was to send in investments of one million and an half sterling. This, he said, would be the means of destroying its prosperity; for no country could bear to be drained that had not the means of recruiting itself; and if you took its specie and its commodities, the country could no more exist than a body that was bled and purged, while it received no food or liquid. To make a nation florish, you must enrich, and not impoverish it. You might, perhaps, depend on its increase of agriculture; but no country whatever was ever cultivated where the inhabitants were poor. Encourage its wealth, and you increase the means of improving its fertility. But to take 900,000l. in specie, and 400,000l. of goods to send to China, would be the means of rendering it the report of the tyger royal, instead of man.

With regard to the endeavours and the expectations of the Right Hon. Gentleman, he hoped neither would be disappointed. No one had more than himself the interest of India at heart. It would

therefore give him the greatest pleasure to see Bengal in a really flourishing state. Great, indeed, would be his honour and glory if he restored the province to the flourishing situation in which it was under the dominion of its native Princes. But as he was afraid this was impossible, yet there was a means by which it could be greatly improved in its welfare and prosperity. This was by suffering it to possess its wealth, encouraging its commerce, and cultivating its natural fertility. Having thus stated the manner in which the province of Bengal might be really rendered prosperous, he deprecated the idea and intention of divesting it of its resources.

Major Scott then rose and said, there was great danger, he admitted, in taking the resources from the country. Although it was daily increasing in revenue, commerce, and population, yet he thought it would be very destructive to its rising prosperity. He gave a particular account in what manner the resources had increased, and would probably continue to increase. With respect to what the Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Burke) had observed in favour of the government of the native Princes, he must, as he had done before on this subject, differ with him. He did not think the province of Bengal was more happy under the native Princes than under our government. We possessed it from the Mahomedans, who possessed it from the native Hindoos. And he was assured, from his having been in the country from the year 1767 to 1781, that the government was more happy and satisfactory to the natives than it ever had been from the year 1745, the time when it was first possessed by this country, to the year 1757.

Mr. Baring said a few words on the subject. He controverted several statements of the Right Hon. Gentleman. He said the accounts of the Directors of the Company, and those sent by Lord Cornwallis, were exactly the same.

Here the question was called for, when the Chairman read the several resolutions, which passed without any further observation or opposition. Adjourning,

TUESDAY, May 8.

Received and read a petition relative to the quartering of soldiers, which was ordered to lie on the table.

Deferred the consideration of the spirit licenses till to-morrow.

Ordered in a bill for the regulation of the Excise

A general Committee was then formed, to consider of the bounties on Irish linen. Mr. Rose in the chair.

This Committee was succeeded by another, Mr. Gilbert in the chair, for the consideration of some new regulations for the prevention of smuggling.

Mr. Rose moved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the provisions of an act passed in the 24th year of the reign of his present Majesty, be extended to other vessels not mentioned in that act.

He also moved, That the duty on flasks, in which oil and wine are imported into this kingdom, cease and determine.

These motions being assented to, he moved, That no prosecutions be brought in consequence of any seizures, provided the articles be restored.

This motion, after a short conversation between Mr. Jolliffe, Mr. Rose, the Attorney-General, and Mr. Dundas, was agreed.

Several other motions were proposed by Mr. Rose to the Committee, and acceded to.

The House being resumed, it was resolved, That the bill for farming the post-horse tax be read a third time on Thursday next.

The order of the day was now read, for the second reading of the bill imposing a duty of two pence, Scots, (the sixtieth part of a penny) on every Scots pint of ale sold in the borough of Aberdare.

Counsel were called to the bar on this occasion, both for and against the bill.

Mr. Tate (apprentice) in support of a petition presented to the House against the bill. The purport of his speech was, that the tax proposed by the bill was heavy and oppressive, being laid upon an article already sufficiently burthened; that by diminishing the consumption of ale, it would lessen the produce of the malt and Excise duties, and have a similar effect on the landed interest of that part of Scotland; that there was not an adequate reason for the imposition, as the town required no improvement at present, &c.

Mr. Grant was counsel for the bill. He stated, that the proposed duty was far from being a heavy one; and that it was absolutely necessary to impose this, or some other duty, that a fund might be provided for the reparation of the harbour, which was in a ruinous condition. He called a witness to prove the bad state in which the harbour is at present, as well as the utility and convenience of a good harbour on that part of the coast.

After the counsel and witness had retired from the bar, it was proposed that the debate on the bill should be adjourned till to-morrow, till which time the House also adjourned, at twenty minutes before six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

TUESDAY, May 8.

AMERICAN DEBT BILL.

Lord Bathurst informed the House, that he meant to bring the bill, which has some time rested in a dormant state, upon the table, forward. He said he was induced to do this, on account of the many hardships under which the Loyalists laboured, from vexatious prosecutions in the country. The Chancellor replied, That he should be ready at all times to meet the learned Lord on that ground, and to state his opinion on the subject.

INSOLVENT BILL.

Lord Rawdon apologised for the absence of his Grace the Duke of Norfolk, who was to support the bill; and it was in consequence deferred to Thursday evening, and the order of the day discharged.

#### PAWN-BROKERS BILL.

Lord Brougham had some little objections to the bill in its present form. It certainly was a better bill than that which was last year brought in and objected to. But still it needed amendments. These he should take the liberty to propose on Tuesday next, and therefore his Lordship moved that the bill should be recommitted for that day; which motion was put and carried.

LONDON.—May 9.  
PRINCE OF WALES.

It is with extreme concern we are compelled to declare, that there is now less prospect than ever of a reconciliation between a certain illustrious personage, and the heir apparent of these kingdoms. The negotiation with the Prince, in which Mr. Pitt and Mr. Dundas took so distinguished a lead, has affected nothing—but that *procrastination*, which there is now but too much reason to suppose, was the sole object on one side of the question.

On Monday evening his Royal Highness received a letter from Windsor, the heads of which stated with ambiguity—

I. Great satisfaction in his Highness having submitted to a Parliamentary exposition of his debts.

II. That no thought could be entertained of their liquidation, till the quantum of each debt was accurately stated.

III. That the nature of each debt must be particularly specified;—from a review of which the expediency or inexpediency of their liquidation, must be decided.

IV. That at all events no assent would be given to the financial measure, till the quantum of each annual revenue.

The Prince wrote back an answer, as explanatory to this extraordinary letter, as the nature of it would admit; which was presented yesterday to his Majesty before he went to the review on Blackheath; the Royal *ultimatum* was expected last night, but certainly had not reached Carlton-House at one o'clock this morning:—So that it is probably Mr. Alderman Newnham may yet be under the disagreeable necessity of bringing forward his suspended motion in the House of Commons, this day. Whatever may be the consequences of that motion, there can be no difficulty now, in pointing out to whom they must be imputable. *Morn. Herald.*

Various messages, both verbal and written, have passed within these two or three days between two August perfidies, but the contents are kept secret; and the public are cautioned against putting any trust in reports which are daily circulated with sinister views on this subject. *London Packet.*

A morning paper says, that the Prince of Wales received a letter from Mr. Pitt yesterday, that it was his Majesty's pleasure that he should order a full account of his debts to be sent to the Treasury, which was complied with. *Ibid.*

Their Majesties, with the Princesses Royal, Augusta, and Elizabeth, last night visited the Opera; which was attended by one of the most brilliant companies we ever beheld. The Prince of Wales was present, and, at the conclusion of the Opera, assisted the Princesses to their carriages.

Monday morning, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales visited the Queen at Buckingham House.

This day the Prince of Wales will give a public breakfast, in Carleton House Gardens, to several of the Nobility.

The House of Commons yesterday, in a Committee to consider of the smuggling act of the 24th year of his present Majesty, came to the following resolutions:—

That further provisions should be made to such vessels as are therein described, and extended to other vessels.

That the duty on flasks, in which wine or oil shall be imported, do cease.

That the officers of the Customs be authorised to examine all packages reported for exportation, in order to ascertain the contents.

That the production of East India ships' manifests be regulated.

That foreign vessels condemned for illicit trade in the West Indies be broken up.

That seized goods delivered from the Customs-house be stamped.

That provision be made to prevent prosecutions for seizures, where goods are restored.

That contractors for timber may be enabled to charge the increased duties.

For regulating the manner of paying the duties on cambrics warehoused, when taken out for sale.

For indemnifying persons having cambrics warehoused, when taken out for sale.

For indemnifying persons having cambrics in their possession.

That all goods imported before the 10th of May, be permitted to be entered upon the same duties, as goods imported after that time.

From accounts respecting the shop tax duties, it appears,

That Scotland pays only L. 800  
London and Westminster 42,000  
Bath and Bristol 1,000

And the remainder of the 57,000l. is made up by the other country cities, towns, &c.

Mr. Philips, Chairman of the Norwich Committee, made a report in the House yesterday.

"That the Hon. Henry Hobart was duly elected a member to serve in Parliament for the city of Norwich." The said determination was ordered to be entered on the Journals.

In case the House of Commons determined the important vote against Mr. Hastings, it is said he will be committed, and afterwards upon petition bailed during the summer. His escape indeed would be a matter of little consequence, as the dignity of our national character would be equally vindicated by the trial and sentence.

Mr. Fox and Mr. Sheridan have declared for the Scotch reform, and allow the reason, justice, and expediency of that measure, upon the principles of constitutional liberty, to which the Scotch have long been strangers—a situation which has made them *aliigatory* in every useful improvement.

The House of Commons, on Monday, in a Committee of supply, voted, That the following sums be granted to his Majesty, viz.

L. s. d.  
13,600 0 0 For the relief of such persons as have suffered in their properties in consequence of the cession of the province of East Florida to the King of Spain, to be distributed in a proportion not exceeding 40 per cent. to such of the said persons as were resident there during the war.

1,000 0 0 For cleansing the harbours of Catwater and Sutton Pool, near Plymouth.

1,500 0 0 To make good money issued to the Secretary of the Commissioners of Public Accounts.

700 0 0 To make good money issued to the Secretary of the East Florida Commissioners.

2,200 0 0 To make good money issued to the Secretary of the Commissioners of Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues.

4,445 19 11 To make good money issued to the Secretary of the Commissioners of American Loyalists.

12,138 16 41 To make good money issued pursuant to addresses.

The resolutions were reported on Tuesday.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee, to consider of ways and means for raising the supply, and resolved, That

L. s. d.  
5,500,000 0 0 Should be raised by loans, or Exchequer bills; and towards making good the supply, the following sums should be applied:

74,102 9 10 Imprest, and other monies remaining in the Exchequer.

44,806 2 7 Being the amount of Army saving and stoppages.

180,000 0 0 Remaining in the Exchequer, of monies granted for the use of land forces in 1785.

To be reported on Tuesday, and Committee to sit again same day.

The restoration of the Prince of Wales to Court, will have a happy effect upon trade. The preparations for the King's birth day, are of an uncommon nature. The Prince Royal will not be indisposed upon the occasion, and all is expected to wear a joyous aspect!

His Grace the Duke of Gordon, with the Marquis of Huntly, set out this week for the continent. The Duchies remains in town, *pour passer le tems!*

The new tax on gin-shops gives the worthy keepers of them no little uneasiness. Mr. Pitt is too cruel—to oblige them to sell good liquors, and tax them at the same time, is very unreasonable! Besides, they are a most useful body of men, since the lower class of people enjoy no other happiness and cheerfulness but what they *inse*.

Commodore Elliot's squadron, which he takes out to Newfoundland for the summer, are the Salisbury of 50 guns, to bear the broad pendant as last year,—Roe of 28 guns, Winchelsea of 32 guns, and a sloop of 16 guns.

Sir John Lockhart Ross, who has accepted the command of the squadron at Gibraltar, on the resignation of Commodore Coffey, has obtained from the Admiralty an additional reinforcement of two frigates of 32 guns each to the fleet in the Mediterranean: and a promise of further reinforcement, if the breaking out of a war between Russia and the Turks, or any other occasion, should render it necessary.

The command of the Asiatic squadron hangs still in doubt: the junior Admiral of the Navy, Sir Edmund Affleck, has been mentioned by the naval people; but, no such appointment has taken place.

The return of the Ordinary of the Navy up to the first of the present month, makes it the same as the preceding month, except in the article of ships of the line, which are increased to 126 ships, by the addition of the Colossus, of 74 guns, lately launched since the former return, at Mr. Cleverley's yard, at Gravesend; and a decrease in the frigates by the Roe, of 28, and Narcissus of 24 guns, being put in commission for sea; the number of sloops are also reduced by those which are lately put in commission.

The disposition of the subsequent regiments of infantry for foreign service, for six years, we are assured, is as follows:

In 1787, the 4th, 5th, and 20th regiments go to Canada, to relieve the 29th, 31st, and 34th regiments.

In 1788, the 9th replaces the 53d at Canada; the 48th and 49th go to Nova Scotia, to relieve the 54th and 57th.

Gannersbury-house, the mansion of the late Princess Amelia, and the estate belonging to it, were purchased yesterday at public auction, by his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, for fifteen thousand five hundred pounds.

His Excellency the Swedish Ambassador presented a memorial on Monday relative to a reclaim of certain lands belonging to the Crown of Sweden, but now appertaining to the Duchy of Bremin.

We hear, that early next session of Parliament, that great and important business, the final adjustment of commerce between this country and Ireland, will be seriously and actively entered on.

Yesterday the journeymen bookbinders were brought up before the Judges of the King's Bench, in order to receive judgment, they having been convicted of a conspiracy against their masters, by demanding of them an abridgment of their hours of labour, and leaving their employ when refused. The Judges on the Bench were Messrs. Ashurst, Buller, and Grose, who, upon this and former occasions in this cause, acted with the greatest impartiality, and at the sametime shewed a proper resentment against such daring attacks upon the welfare of the state, and the laws of the constitution. Mr Justice Ashurst took the lead in the business, made many trite and judicious observations, and very candidly spoke of the lenity of the masters towards their journeymen, there having been twenty-four convicted, and only five of them, at the request of the counsel for the masters, received sentence as hostages for the rest. The sentence passed upon them was two years imprisonment in Newgate, which the wise and learned Judge could not think too severe, in order to check the growing evil of combinations in a trading and free country. The masters who were present, still professing the same feelings of humanity, were shocked to think that the misguided zeal of the body at large should be so severely felt by a few individuals. It is to be hoped, that this sentence will be a warning to artificers in general, and prove a means of their avoiding such combinations in future.

Letters from Philadelphia, of the 7th of April, advise, that General Lincoln had totally suppressed the rebellion; and that the States had offered a reward of one hundred and fifty pounds for the apprehension of Shea, and one hundred pounds each for three of his companions.

#### Extract of a letter from Madras.

" So populous is the House of Campbell, that our present Governor has promoted all of that name to the following offices :

Private Secretary to the Governor.

Postmaster General.

Aid de Camp to the Governor.

Town Major of Fort St George.

Sheriff of Madras.

Quarter-Master General.

Lieut. Colonel, and Senior Officer of Cavalry.

Barrack Master, south of the Coleroon.

Ditto of the Middle Division, with some others

of lesser note.

Of the foregoing, there are only two who are actually in the Company's service.

#### PRICE of STOCKS, MAY 9.

Bank Stock, 1554.	Indy Bonds, 63 s.
New 4 per cent. 1777, 96 s.	(South Sea Stock,
5 per cent. Ann. 1785, 115 s.	Old S. S. Ann. 76 s.
—	New ditto, —
3 per cent. red. 76 1/2 s.	3 per cent. 1751, —
3 per cent. con. 77 1/2 s.	New Navy and Vict. Bills, 23 s.
3 per cent. 1726, —	diss.
Long Ann. 22 1/2 a 15-16ths.	Exch. Bills, —
30 Years Ann. 1778, 13 13 s.	Lottery Tickets, 15 l. 13 s.
16ths a 1/2.	Bank for May —
India Stock, —	India for May, —
3 per cent. India Ann. —	Consols for May. 77 1/2 a 1/2.

#### WIND AT D E A L, MAY 8. N. N. E.

#### EDINBURGH.

##### Extract of a letter from London, May 9.

" The House of Lords heard counsel to-day on the great cause between Johnstone and Sutton, on which the Judges attended; and, after hearing Mr Erskine for upwards of three hours, adjourned the further hearing till Friday.

" The House of Commons, the gallery of which was filled at one o'clock, did not begin business till past four o'clock, and, at half past five, the order of the day was not called for, Mr Pitt having but just come down.

" The principal matter transacted was, the going into a Committee of ways and means, in which an additional duty of 6 d. a gallon was laid on all foreign Geneva.

" And it was also agreed, that all ebony, the produce of Africa, should be imported into Great Britain duty free.

" Mr Adam stated the case of those people of West Florida, who had suffered through their loyalty during the late commotions in America, and though they were as much entitled to the consideration of the House as the inhabitants of East Florida, who had been pronounced proper subjects. The Hon. Gentleman said, if this should be the opinion of the Right Hon. Gentleman, (Mr Pitt) he was satisfied; if not, he would move that the case of the inhabitants of West Florida should be referred to Commissioners to be appointed to examine into the nature of their claims.

" Mr Pitt could by no means agree to this, and wished, as an important object stood as the order of the day, that the Honourable Gentleman would take some other opportunity of submitting the matter to the consideration of the House.

" Mr Adam acquiesced, and the matter dropped.

" Mr Gilbert gave notice, that the bill for the better relieving and employing the poor, was almost ready to be laid before the House; and Sir Gregory Page Turner took occasion to observe, that it redounded much to the honour of the Honourable Gentleman, who ought to be handed down to posterity for it, in letters of gold.

" The several petitions complaining of the bad state of the copper coin were read; and Mr Pitt observed, that it certainly was in a condition to call for attention; but trusted, that the executive power would be found sufficient to reform it, without the interposition of the Legislature.

" Sundry accounts, stating the revenue and debts

of the East India Company, were presented and read.

" It was expected that the order of the day would be next moved, for considering the charges exhibited against Warren Hastings, Esq; and that the whole would be read at length, which would take up an hour or more.

" After this, the House will proceed to give their opinion, on what articles the impeachment should be founded, and a separate question may be had on every article. And

" After determining on the articles to go to the Lords, the main question will then be put, Whether they shall go to the Lords as an impeachment or not; and if carried, it is expected that Major Scott will plead the merits of Mr Hastings by way of set off; but how far the House may get to day, remains to be seen.

" In case the impeachment should be carried, the House will proceed to farther charges, as may be convenient, which if found to contain criminal matter, will be sent to the Lords as may suit.

The eagerness with which the admirable productions of the ancient and modern Scottish Bards are now read, shows in what high estimation Scottish poetry is held. It is, therefore, with pleasure we observe that taste, accompanied with part of the ancient Caledonian dress, so much prevails at present. Some Gentlemen of this city, in the course of a pecculiar excursion this week to *season meat with health*, explored Habie's How, and the other pleasing rural scenes in the celebrated Pastoral of the Gentle Shepherd, so naturally and elegantly described by the immortal Ramsay. These are situated about eight miles south-west of Edinburgh, in the Pentland Hills, and we learn, that though *Mary's Cottage in the Glen, the Houses of Glaud and Symon*, and the once fair seat of Sir William, are now in ruins, having with each rainy blast decaying, fall'n; so that the broken walls and foundations in rubbish lie overgrown with nettles, docks, and brier; yet the flowerie howm, the verdant brae, the trotting burnie windling thro' the ground, the suckler brae, the hissel-shaw, and the stupendous craig for the lover's loup, still appear exactly corresponding to the lively poetical descriptions of the Pastoral. The travellers were particularly delighted with the beautiful and grand appearance of Habie's How, mentioned at 1st. scene 2d. where

Between two birks, out o'er a little lin,  
The water fa's, and makes a singand din :  
A pool breast-deep, beneath as clear as glaas,  
Killes with easy whirl's the bord'ring graes.

And here they pour'd forth a tass of Uquebae, as a libation to the memory of the eminent Author of that Pastoral.

Arrived at London, the Betsey of Dunbar, Miller, from Leith, in 56 hours from the time of her leaving the roads, and all well.

The Minerva, Robert Grindlay master, arrived safe at Borrowstounness from London, the 10th current, a large Assortment of

#### Extract of a letter from Peris, May 6.

" A few days since, two journeymen wrights had a squabble about some of their tools, which came the length of blows; when the one struck the other with a plane in such a manner, that he was carried home very bad. He is since dead, and the lad that struck him is in prison."

#### State of the Thermometer since our last:

Thursday, May 10. 8 o'clock,	P. M. 47
Friday, — 11. 8 —	A. M. 46
8 —	P. M. 47

Saturday, — 12. 8 — A. M. 48

#### ARRIVED AT LEITH,

May 11. Thomas and Martha, Bond, from Blackney, grain.

Nelly, Jimmie, from Alnehead, with ditto.

12. Margaret, Crichton, from Esdale, with dates.

#### On Thursday next will be published,

By WILLIAM CREECH,

(Price 7s. 6d. in Boards, or 9s. Bound in calf, in three neat pocket Volumes,

#### THE LOUNGER,

A PERIODICAL PAPER,

Published at Edinburgh, in 1785 and 1786.

By the Authors of the Mirror.

The 2d Edit. corrected.

On Monday the 21st inst. will be published,

By C. ELLIOT,

Parliament-square,

SAIL M D H A I B H I D H, &c.

The Psalms of David,

With the ASSEMBLY'S PARAPHRASES, Ten Com-

mandments, Creed, and Lord's Prayer.

Translated into Gaelic by the Synod of Argyle, and published

ed by John Smith, D.D.

To which is added a SCALE of MUSIC, and Fifteen of the best CHURCH TUNES, engraved on Copper.

In large 18mo—conce copies price 1s. 3d. fine 2s. and superfine 2s. 6d. all bound. A handsome allowance to booksellers, merchants, and those who may chuse to accommodate the poor with copies.

About the same time will be published,

1. The Originals of the Gaelic Poems some time ago published in the Gaelic Antiquities, by John Smith, D.D.; in 8vo and 4to, price 6s. in boards.

2. A Summary View and Explanation of the Writings of the Prophets, 12mo, 3s. bound.

Of C. Elliot may be had, just published,

1. Dan an Deing agus Tionna Ghaidh—Dargo and Gail, two ancient Gaelic poems, with notes by John Smith, D.D., 8vo, price 1s.

2. Gaelic Antiquities, being a history of the Druids, particularly of Caledonia, and a Dissertation on the authenticity of Ossian's Poems, with English translations of the above poems, in quarto, 10s. 6d.—or with the Gaelic poems, in boards 16s. 6d.

3. Dr Smith's View of the Last Judgment, octavo, 5s. bound.

#### LEATHER TRADE.

A SALE of all sorts of LEATHER, (See Advertisement in a former paper), DUNBAR PRINGLE offers his best services as a Factor or Agent for buying or selling all sorts of Leather on commission. Those who are pleased to favour him with their employ may depend on the strictest attention being paid to it in interest.

He continues to manufacture and sell, at his shop, Nether Bow, Shamoy, White, and Tanned Leather, and Sod Oil &c. &c. for Carriers.

Letters or orders addressed as above, viz. To Dunbar Pringle, Edinburgh, will be duly attended to.

#### WINE S, &c.

ALEXANDER WRIGHT Wine Merchant, with very great pleasure, informs his Friends, and the Public, That, agreeable to the reduction of the duties upon Wines, which took place on the 10th inst. he is now enabled to sell all Foreign Wines, not French. Two Shillings and Sixpence, and French Wines, Twelve Shillings per dozen, cheaper than formerly.

Both Double Stout and Common English Porter; Cyder, Perry, and Barton Ale, at the usual prices.

Commissions addressed to ALEX. WRIGHT, West Bow, punctually attended to.

#### To be SOLD by Private Bargain,

THAT almost new, large, and well-lighted MEETING HOUSE, in Lady Lawson's Wynd, Portsburgh.

For particulars, enquire at James Smith founder, Canal-street, New Town, Edinburgh.

#### Sale for READY MONEY only,

Continues on SALE at the shop, east side of Bridge Street, Edinburgh, lately possessed by Mr Ronzor LAIDLAW.

THE Whole Stock of GOODS, consisting of a very complete assortment of Superfine Broad Cloths, Ladies Cloths, Seconds, Forreys, Hunters, very fine Elatic Strip Cloths, Livery Cloths, Cassimere, Wiltons, and German Sevens, Rich Gold Strip Velvets, Silks, and Muslins, for Ladies and Gentlemen's Vests.

Printed Quiltings, India Twells, Buggetters, Linseys, and great variety of other Stuffs for Men.

Black and Coloured Velvets, rich Satins, patent and common Florentines, Denims, Thickets, Lattices, and many other Stuffs for Vests and Breeches.

Fashionable cocked and round Hats.

A variety of Ladies and Gentlemen's Silk Stockings, fine white Cotton, Thread, and Worsted ditto. Handkerchiefs, Nankeens, and many other articles, purchased from the manufacturers within these eighteen months.

N. B. The hours of sale are from ten to three o'clock.

Retailers and purchasers will find these goods considerably below the current prices, and well worth their attention.

Superfine Cloths at 1s. per yard.

As the Shop is set after the 25th instant, the goods must be positively sold off by that time, therefore great bargains will be given of the remaining articles.

Expeditious Travelling betwixt Edinburgh and London by way of Cornhill and Barrowbridge, which is 20 miles nearer, than by way of Berwick & York.

#### THE ROYAL CHARLOTTE,

Edinburgh, Newcastle, and London

NEW LIGHT POST-COACH, WELL GUARDED; CONTINUES to set out from the New Black Bull Inn, Katherine's Street, north side of the Register Office, Edinburgh, every day in the week, at four o'clock in the morning, for Newcastle and London; and from the George and Blue Boar, Holborn, London, and Turk's Head, Newcastle, every day for Edinburgh.

The proprietors of this Coach have provided a set of new and commodious carriages, built on a safe construction, to carry nothing on the top or roof, which for safety, ease, and expedition, will at least equal any other plying on the road to London.

By this mode of conveyance passengers go from Edinburgh to London in two days and a half, with the great advantage of getting out in the morning.

The proprietors return most sincere thanks to their friends and the public for past favours, and while they study to make every thing agreeable to the enterprisers of their undertaking, they hope for a continuance of their favours.

Fare from Edinburgh to Newcastle,

from Newcastle to London,

1. 14. 0

3. 11. 0

Luggage, parcels, &c. as usual.—The proprietors will not be accountable for cash, jewels, or plate; or any considerations, nor any other article above 1

